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men averaging not more than five feet three inches in height. The head is somewhat lozenge-shaped, the cheek bones high and prominent, the mouth wide and the nose short,—not flat as in negroes, or prominent as in Europeans.” “The men have but a few straggling hairs for beards, and these they generally pull out with a pair of iron tweezers. The hair of the head in both sexes is lank, coarse, and worn long.” The different kinds of trees and their fruits are graphically described, and the drawings which illustrate them are characteristic, especially that of the Bamboo. We have space to quote but one or two of the more interesting passages, since these travels extend to many islands, each of which are in turn described; while their political history, the character of their people, agriculture, and geological features of the countries, all pass in review. The author thus describes the different zones of vegetation in the island of Java: “Above one thousand feet, palms, bananas, and papilionaceous plants become fewer, and are replaced by the lofty fig or ‘waringin,’ which, with its high top and long branches, rivals the magnificent palms of the sea-shore.” Liquid amber, and the cotton-wood, also appear, and orchidaceous plants and ferns in considerable numbers. “Over this region of the fig, comes that of oaks and laurels. Orchidaceous plants and melastomas are more abundant here.” “Above six thousand feet are Rubiaceæ, heaths, and cone-bearing trees,” succeeded by the zone of small ferns, lichens, and mosses.

Java is the Cuba of the East Indies. “In each there is a great central chain of mountains. Both shores of Cuba are opposite small bodies of water, and are continuously low and swampy for miles, but in Java only the north coast borders on a small sea. This shore is low, but the southern coast, on the margin of the wide Indian Ocean, is high and bold, in accordance with the rule that the higher elevations are opposite the greater oceans.”

The islands of Lontar, Pulo Pisang, and Pulo Capal, are described as the remnants of the wall of a sunken crater, the length of which was four and a half, and the breadth not less than three and a half miles. The active volcano of Bromo, within the limits of this crater, was ascended and described, Mr. Bickmore nearly losing his life in the attempt. The grave of Rumphius, marked by a small square pillar, is still in existence, and was found and described by the author.

The many observations and facts which the author has brought together, would have been made more available, and more valuable to the scientist, if the work had been less diffuse. The number of pages might have been lessened without detracting from its popular character, or the freshness and beauty of many of the descriptions of the fruits and natural scenery.

**BEE KEEPING.\***—In this pamphlet the author describes what he claims to be “a new system of bee keeping, adapted to the habits and characteristics of the honey bee; with descriptions of, and directions for mana-

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\* A New System of Bee Keeping. By D. L. Adair. Cincinnati, 1867. 8vo, pp. 74.

ging bees in the section bee-hive. embracing also improved methods of artificial swarming, whereby the business of bee keeping is rendered more profitable and pleasant." The rearing of bees is becoming a source of profit to farmers, and though without a practical acquaintance with the subject, we should judge it to be for the interest of every bee keeper to own this little manual, and to learn the merits of the section bee-hive described and figured in it.

THE EXTINCT FLORA OF NORTH AMERICA.\*—This pamphlet is the climax of the late controversy between Messrs. Meek and Hayden on the one side, and Profs. Marcou and Heer on the other. This controversy made us acquainted with the fact that the familiar forms of the poplar, oak, sassafras, willow, etc., lived in the Cretaceous period; and in the present pamphlet the author, who was also one of the first to assert this truth, reviews the main points of the evidence, and brings forward a numerous list of new species. The Cretaceous period, though the continent had a different outline from the present, and though it was inhabited by animals very distinct from ours, had forests resembling in many of their characteristic trees those of to-day. "Salisburia, Sabal, and Cinnamomum, etc., are indicative of a warmer climate," and are found on the West coast of the continent. "Possibly these genera may hereafter be detected in the plant-beds of Kansas, Nebraska, and New Mexico, but as yet we have no intimation of their existence, and there is nothing now known in the Cretaceous flora of that region which gives it a tropical or even sub-tropical character."

"It will be remembered that this vegetation grew upon a broad continental surface, of which the central portion was considerably elevated. This would give us physical conditions not unlike those of the continent at the present day; and it would seem to be inevitable that the isothermal lines should be curved over the surface somewhat as at present. It may very well happen, therefore, that we shall find the palms and cinnamons restricted to the western margin of the Cretaceous continent. It will be seen by the notes now given of the Tertiary flora of our continent, that, at a later date, palms grew in the same region where these Cretaceous plants are found; but cinnamons and other tropical plants seem to be entirely wanting in the Tertiary flora of the central part of the continent, while on the west coast both palms and cinnamons lived during the Tertiary period as far north as the British line. We have therefore negative evidence from the facts, though it may be reversed at an early day by farther observations, that the climate of the interior of our continent during the Tertiary age was somewhat warmer than at the beginning of the Cretaceous period, and that during both the same relative differences of climate prevailed between the central and western portions that exist at the present day."

PARASITIC WORMS IN THE BRAIN OF A BIRD.†—One of the most obscure subjects in zoölogy is the history and development of animal parasites, and especially those which take up their abode in the brain of different animals. Prof. Wyman has detected a species of "round worm" in the brain of seventeen out of nineteen specimens of the *Anhinga* (Snake-bird

\* Notes on the Later Extinct Floras of North America, with descriptions of some New Species of Fossil Plants from the Cretaceous and Tertiary Strata. By Prof. J. S. Newberry, of Columbia College, New York. 8vo, pp. 76.

† On a Thread-worm Infesting the Brain of the Snake-bird." By Jeffries Wyman, M. D. (From the Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, October 7, 1868). 8vo, pp. 7.